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EDU 535A - PRACTICUM : Applying Educational Technology

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**Pierre School District Technology Budget**

The overall budget for the 2011-2012 school year in the Pierre School District totals $274,169 for a district with approximately 2555 students. The current technology budget is up $2,748 from the 2010-2011 school year budget. The school district has made it a mission to make sure that students throughout the district have adequate access to technology and computers. The most influential technology program in place is one-to-one computer program at the high school. The budget for the Pierre School District is broken up into several major categories: salaries, new technology, and the maintenance of current technology products.

Most of the Pierre School District Budget, similar to the overall budget of the district, is spent on personnel and their salaries. Including salaries, personal leave, wellness payment, social security, retirement, and healthcare all add up to $245,619, which is about 90% of the technology budget. The technology department, housed at the high school, has one head coordinator and four technology assistants. For a school district the size of Pierre, 5 staff members have the duty of servicing over

For new technology within the district, the Pierre School District has separated out these funds as consumable and non-consumable supplies. Consumable supplies, such as printer cartridges and projector bulbs, cost the school district about $6,000 dollars. The consumable supplies are used by the entire district as a whole. Non-consumable supplies, such as small technology equipment (items less than $1000), cords, and replacement pens for the high school tablets, cost the school district $16,000. For the purchase of new computer equipment, the school district has budgeted $151,000. For maintenance of equipment, the school district has budgeted $2,000 for service and repair.

With a high school that has a one-to-one computer program, integrating and maintaining technology is a large task for the school district. Riggs High School is in its third year of being one-to-one. The lease on the HP computers, which are used by approximately 850 students and staff, totals about $371,000. The school district has set aside money to be able to buy back ½ of the hardware every 2 years. With this program, older models from the high school are passed down to the one middle and four elementary schools in the district. While Georgia Morse Middle School is not a one-to-one school, they do have adequate sources of computers with 5 middle school computer labs and computers within classrooms.

Last, the school district spends our total professional development budget is $198,788. No particular amount of money is set aside just for technology training. One of the main training events in technology for our district is the TIE conference, which costs approximately $1000 for all attendees in our district.

The Pierre School District has made conscious efforts in an ever changing educational system and continual shrinking school district budget to fight for the funds to add new technology to the district. While there is always room for improvement for newer and better technology, the leaders of the Pierre School District do have a technology base to their educational philosophy and this is represented in the current equipment and programs enacted to improve the technology of the district.